

UPSTAIRS BULLETIN

Volume 10 Number 3

January 20, 1970.

Chicago, Illinois

An Educational Group

WHAT HAPPENED ?

From John F. Kennedy's inaugural address...."Let the word go forth from this time and place, to friend and foe alike, that the torch has been passed to a new generation of Americans - born in this century, tempered by war, disciplined by a hard and bitter peace, proud of our ancient heritage." This inspired speech ended with - "ask not what your country can do for you - ask what you can do for your country."

THE CHAOTIC 60's.

It would take a hardy prospector to find gold in the mire of this decade. It was a decade representing probably the most hideous side of human nature - inside and out - when we remember these years in the future, these incongruities will come to mind; undeclared wars, senseless assassinations, not one but three, Buddha burnings, crime on the streets, crime protected by the Supreme Courts over-concern for Civil Liberties, Speck, Black Power, hippies, yippies and dipsomaniacs, seizures and destruction of public property, the disgrace of the Moratorium, L.S.D. and S.D.S., marijuana, rising taxes and living costs, while billions are spent on moon landings that could be more wisely spent in a billion other ways. Personalities; the tragedy of Marilyn Monroe, the Beattles who made everybody's hair grow, or was it Nureyev? - Jacqueline Kennedy's beautiful image - where is it? Barbara Streisand came at the right time when beauty is not an asset. All this with a "Nutcracker" in almost every city in the nation which shows the extent of pollution and how ordinary and uncreative the entire decade was.

HOLIDAY NEWS FROM THE SC FAMILY

During the holidays we receive hundreds of very welcome cards, some with news, others with just a name; those with news are more welcome. Most disturbing are those who do not write at all and there were more of these than usual this year. Granted life gets harder as you

get older but how long does it take to remember a friend?

JAY DEVLIN hit the jack pot this year with 20 TV commercials, an industrial show, a lead part in "Little Murderers" and a movie "The Cross and The Switchblade" starring Pat Boone. JANICE MC CALEB, Physical Ed Instructor at the University of Illinois in Chicago, wrote a wonderful article in the Journal of Health and Physical Education on "Ballet in the Gymnasium". JOAN PETLAK writes that she passed the State Exams in California and now is a full fledged nurse - a very useful citizen. BILL MALONEY is now a member of the well known La Mama Group in New York. On the side he recently danced a concert with Katie Litz. JIM MOORE and family are in Paris where he is assisting Roland Petit at the Casino de Paris. NAOMI SORKIN was on the Today Show during the holidays dancing her part in the new Dennis Nahat ballet "Brams Quintet" - we had many letters saying how beautifully she danced on this program. ALEXIS HOFF & BONNIE MATHIS will soon be off to Europe again, for another tour with the Harkness Ballet Company. LISA WEINBERG is now a scholarship student at the Martha Graham school - very happy but yearning for a real chance to perform sometime soon. RAYMOND ROITMAN was married on January 4th and is doing graduate work at DeKalb where he will get his Masters in Special Education and then on to a Ph D in Clinical Psychology. BARBARA MAC FARLANE now a senior at the Univ. of Cincinnati Dance Department, expects to invade the 'Audition Area' in New York come late spring. RANDI SCHULTZ is to be known as RANDALYNN KAYE in the future, she is in the American Ballet Company (Eliot Feld). PATRICK CUMMINGS is apparently busy with Ona White on a new show - Elmer Gantry -- is suffering from a broken arm. DOLORES LIPINSKI & LARRY LONG back in Washington, to start their Washington performances. They are to be in Chicago very soon. CHARLES BENNETT busy on rehearsals for their fall season

with two replacements. STEVE PRIMIS spent the holidays in Florida sunbathing and fishing. JOHN SHARPE producing and directing an industrial show for the J.C. Penney Co. GILDO DI NUNZIO was pinch hitting during the Met strike by playing for BT and the Les Noces performances in Brooklyn. JANE BARWIS, GAIL PETERSON & BONNIE MC CULLOUGH all went to New York for the Christmas course at the Martha Graham school. DESIRE & CHARLES GRODE, TRACEY HUNTLEY, DARLENE CALLAGHAN, LYNN ZIOLKA, LAURIE FURCICK and LIZ LANGER all were in the Pennsylvania "Nutcracker" - incidentally this "Nut" was a bomb and their director announced on radio that they were bringing 'good' dancing to Chicago. It proves how little the rest of the country knows about Chicago and how little the Dance Magazine or the Dance News does to change the picture. MARLA RAE GOLDEN is a member of the Sybil Shearer Concert group which has been performing recently. MARY FORMOLA is leading a dedicated and struggling existence with the Le Groupe de la Place Royal in Montreal Canada. JULIE BICKING WALDER is back in Chicago to live permanently and it is wonderful to have her lovely smile about again. BUD TYGETT was home at Christmas following his siege at the Nutcracker in Huntsville. DEAN DIGGINS has completed his M.S. in speech Pathology and now is completing his doctorate in Psychology. He expects to teach in college when he finishes. ALICE BRIN tried out for the Lyric Opera chorus and was accepted for next season. She will finish her fourth year of college in June. HARRY BERNSTEIN (known as a dancer as Harold Borin) is the director of the Dance Department at Adelphi College in New York with a large staff of teachers under him. SANDRA (Sandy) & EDDIE GIBSON (away up in the brass) have been in Saigon, Hong Kong, New Dehli, Agra, Jaiphur, and Bangkok this past year despite the fact that Sandy hates to fly. Florida seems to be the Senior Citizen Camp for aging Ballerinas - not that they are aging because they seem to be getting around a lot - should have said retired. Among the old Opera group there are MARION FINHOLT, LOUISE SHOTT, BARBARA WARREN, KATHLEEN WHEELER & MAOMI SMITH. EDWARD CATON was recently taken to task for misquoting who danced Swan Lake

at the old Civic by RUTH PRYOR - and right she was. He was with Pennsylvania Ballet's "Nuts" but no one ever got to see him off stage. SUSAN FURLONG enjoyed my visit to her parlor via TV as The Doctor Eli Duffy last spring. You may not remember but Susan was one of our lovely children struck with Polio back in the 40's. The other BILLY ALBERTS still all puffed up about being an uncle. JUANITA GARBER WEIR is now a New Englander and finds them friendly - who wouldn't be friendly around Juanita? Her sister MARY MARGE GARBER is still on crutches from a bad fall on the ice last Christmas. ASTA & NORRIE NELSON are off to the South Seas and they will go to Norway to visit her parents. NINA NELSON visited us shortly before the holidays. She is in College in Minneapolis. MYRTLE DOVELL is going on tours with AARP and finds them very enjoyable while daughter JEAN seems to have settled into oblivion and lack of speech. JOHN WIDMER with long red sideburns and looking like a shipwrecked merchant marine has been about town. At the sametime fashionplate PAT HEIM bewhiskered and mustached - but neat as a button and twice as colorful, getting his second divorce. They say that GILDO DI NUNZIO is sporting a 'Fu Manchu' type hair arrangement on his upper lip. VALRI INMAN has added a third surname sometime in the past year. MAXINE FALLON JOHNSON had her family of boys in during the holidays - was it 7 or was it 9 boys? The only one I can think of to beat that is MARIE MURPHY with 9, in Canton, Ill. On December 24, a bundle of joy arrived at the home of FRUMETH & SHELLY SIEGEL'S - little JONATHAN arrived just in time to be a tax deduction. LINDA SKERPAN and her family have moved again, this time to San Anselmo, California, and is now studying with Alan Howard. G.B.L. Wilson wrote in a review; "Gise Furtwangler's new ballet "Being Beauteous" was distinguished by some fine dancing by the American Star TRUMAN FINNEY who made a great name for himself at Stuttgart under John Cranko. This is in Cologne at the Opera. VIRGINIA DONALDSON recently returned from a trip to Russia and Copenhagen. She is now a converted New

Yorker working for the N. Y. City Ballet. DOROTHY YOUNG JOHNSON pictured with Ted Shawn, Christian and Villella in a news clipping threatens to visit us come summer. NANNETTE SEWARD TWARDAS is expecting her third child in May. They are now living in Oconomowoc and her husband recently suffered a heart attack. JACQUELINE MC KANNAY signed with BT in November but due to the hectic Brooklyn season and the equally hectic management will not be on the present tour. Friends we missed in Europe last summer - JULIA BARASHKOVA and LOUIS YETTER. DIANE KORF starts rehearsals in February with the Frederick Apcar Productions in Las Vegas. Rainmakers S & C of last August in Europe brought the first December rain to the desert in Arizona on our holiday. The rain was bad enough, but it brought a cold wave with it. However, we had a pleasant time with the KELLY BROWN'S and HELEN MC ELROY WAGNER. Kelly has a beautiful new studio and a thriving business. He is fortunate in having an able and helpful wife - ISABEL who maintains an avid interest and contact with the outside dance world. While there, Kelly taught a class for us with his most advanced pupils - daughter LESLEY with only Brown training stood out like a jewel. HELEN MC ELROY WAGNER, a pupil back in Oak Park days was most kind in taking us about to points of interest around Phoenix. Helen's interest in dance is being carried on through her daughter who is a graduate of Mills College and a modern dancer. Helen asked about many of her friends of those Mary Kane days and we were able to tell her about many of them ... Some people have a knack for saying beautiful and thoughtful things - many do not and revert to the printer's ink to speak their feelings. Not so MAGGIE SMITH & STEVE PRIMIS. Each year I find myself saving their cards with their special messages. Three deaths that saddened the holidays were: THOMAS HART FISHER, husband of RUTH PAGE, our longtime friend after a long lingering illness; BERT RAY, husband of MARY GEHR, a former dancer and now a well known painter; and most recently, JOSEPH HARGADON, husband of our dearest friend and associate for many, many years, MADELENE. Our association goes back to the early 30's at the Children's Civic Theatre and it has never been anything but perfect.

THE HUMAN RACE:

Such is the human race. Often it does seem a pity that Noah and his party didn't miss the boat. MARK TWAIN

There are three kinds of people in this world; those who make things happen, those who watch things happen; and those who have no idea what happened.

When one thinks coldly, I see no reason for attributing to man a significance different in kind from that which belongs to a baboon or to a grain of sand. - Oliver Wendell Holmes, Jr.

I can stand any kind of society. All I care to know is that a man is a human being- that is enough for me; he can't be any worse. - Mark Twain

Leonardo da Vinci ruled his notebooks in columns headed fox- wolf- bear and monkey and made notes of human faces by ticking them off in these columns.

G. B. Shaw

Those thinkers who cannot believe in any gods often assert that the love of humanity would be in itself sufficient for them; and so, perhaps, it would, if they had it. G. K. Chesterton

* * * * *

I do not think I am any better or any worse than most people, but I know that if I set down every action in my life and every thought that has crossed my mind, the world would consider me a monster of depravity.

- W. Somerset Maugham

I am pessimistic about the human race because it is too ingenious for its own good. Our approach to nature is to beat it into submission. We would stand a better chance of survival if we accommodated ourselves to this planet and viewed it appreciatively instead of skeptically and dictatorially.

E. B. White